



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF:

LD 47, "An Act to Provide an Exception to a Fishing Prohibition near the Crooked Brook Dam."

THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

SPONSORED BY: Representative Mason of Lisbon

Good afternoon, Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts and fellow distinguished members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Representative Rick Mason representing part of Lisbon and I am here today to introduce my bill **LD 47**, "An Act to Provide an Exception to a Fishing Prohibition near the Crooked Brook Dam. "

The Crooked Brook dam in Danforth has historically been a popular fishing spot for town residents. Fishways are closed for fishing within 150-feet due to a prohibition within Title 12, Section 12457. With the completion of the new fishway and the development of a new community park, the historical fishing opportunities provided to this community should continue.

This bill was brought forth by the department and it makes an exception to the 150-foot fishing setback around the Crooked Brook Dam fishway which allows fishing closer to the fishway but still prohibits fishing in or from the fishway for safety reasons. This bill also aligns with the other 10 exceptions of the prohibition of fishing in or from the fishway throughout the state.

I would now like to defer to Liz Latti, Fisheries and Hatcheries Director at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to provide answers to your questions and explain it more in depth concerning this department-initiated bill.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Rick Mason".

Richard G. Mason
State Representative

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